

KEMPSTON
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
AND OF THE
SANITARY INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR

1947

H. E. C. SUTTON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health.

C. A. L. SETCHELL, A.M.I.S.E., M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.,
Sanitary Inspector.

**To the Chairman and Members of the
Kempston Urban District Council.**

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my annual report upon the health, vital statistics and sanitary conditions of the Kempston Urban District for the year 1947.

A study of the various statistics reveals little variation from those of the previous year.

Fortunately, the district did not experience the high incidence of infantile paralysis that occurred in many parts of the country, only one true case being notified.

I welcome this opportunity of thanking the officials of the district and the staff for their helpful co-operation.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

H. E. C. SUTTON,

Medical Officer of Health.

October, 1948.

KEMPSTON URBAN DISTRICT

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR 1947

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY.

H. E. C. Sutton, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., Medical Officer of Health.

C. A. L. Setchell, A.M.I.S.E., M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., Cert. S.I.B., Cert. Meat Inspection, Sanitary Inspector, Surveyor and Water Engineer.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area in Acres	.. .. .	1,302
Population, Census for 1931	.. .. .	5,488
Registrar General's estimate of resident population up to Mid Year, 1947	.. .. .	8,114
Number of Inhabited Houses (at end of 1947) according to the Rate Book	.. .. .	2,302
Rateable Value	.. .. .	£34,420
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	.. .. .	£140

SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

The majority of employed people work in Bedford, or at Brick Works south of Kempston. A considerable number of men and girls are employed at Engineering Works in Bedford.

Apart from the Electric Lamp Works, the remainder in Kempston are small concerns comprising a Shoe Factory, Leather Works, Iron Foundry Works, Pattern Makers, Engineering Works, Crayon Works, Cardboard Box Factory, Tin Works and Metal Hose Works.

Social conditions are dominated by the housing shortage, with the consequence that many families are sharing houses and living in rooms often quite unsuitable. Although the Council are erecting houses as quickly as present restrictions and labour shortages will allow no end at present can be seen to this problem.

STATISTICS.

				<i>Total</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	Birth Rate 19·8 per 1,000 of the estimated resident population.	
Live Births	{	Legitimate	.. ..	152	78	74		
		Illegitimate	.. ..	9	6	3		
		Total						

The corresponding figure for England and Wales is 20.5.

				<i>Total</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	
Still Births	{	Legitimate		3	0	3	Birth Rate 18.3 per 1,000 births (live and still)
		Illegitimate	.. ..	0	0	0	
				<u>3</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>3</u>	
				<u><u>3</u></u>	<u><u>0</u></u>	<u><u>3</u></u>	

						<i>Total</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>
Deaths	..	..	..	..	..	96	38	58

giving a death rate of 11.8 per 1,000 of the resident population.

The corresponding figure for England and Wales is 12·0.

DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES

(Headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar-General's Short List).

No. 29	Puerperal and Post-Abortion Sepsis	..	..	0
No. 30	Other Maternal causes	..	..	0

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births—0.0.

MATERNAL MORTALITY FOR ENGLAND AND WALES.

Abortion with Sepsis	..	..	..	0.10	per 1,000	(live and still)	Births.
Abortion without Sepsis	..	..	..	0.06	„	„	„
Puerperal Infections	..	..	..	0.16	„	„	„
Others	..	..	..	0.85	„	„	„

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) Births—1.17.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

			<i>Total</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>
Death of Infants under one year—	Legitimate	.. ..	5	2	3
	Illegitimate	.. ..	0	0	0
Death Rate of all infants per 1,000 live births		.. ..	..	..	31.05
„ „ „	Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	.. ..	..	..	32.9
„ „ „	Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	.. ..	..	..	0.0

							<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	11
„ „ Measles (all ages)	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	0
„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages)	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	0
„ „ Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age)	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	0
„ „ Scarlet Fever (all ages)	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	1
„ „ Diphtheria	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	0

CAUSES OF DEATH.

							<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>
1 Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	0
2 Cerebro-spinal Fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	0
3 Scarlet Fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	1
4 Whooping Cough	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	0
5 Diphtheria	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	0
6 Tuberculosis of Respiratory system	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	0
7 Other forms of Tuberculosis	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	1
8 Syphilitic diseases	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	0
9 Influenza	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	0
10 Measles	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	0
11 Acute Polio-myelitis and polio-encephalitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	0
12 Acute infective encephalitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	0
13 Cancer of b. cavity and œsophagus (M.)	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	0
Uterus (F.)	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	4
14 Cancer of stomach and duodenum	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
15 Cancer of breast	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	2
16 Cancer of all other sites	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	4
17 Diabetes	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	1
18 Intra-cranial vascular lesions	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	6
19 Heart disease	..	..	..	..	..	..	8	19
20 Other diseases of circulatory system	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	7
21 Bronchitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	1
22 Pneumonia	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2
23 Other respiratory diseases	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	0
24 Ulceration of stomach and duodenum	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	0
25 Diarrhœa (under 2 years)	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	0
26 Appendicitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	0
27 Other digestive diseases	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	0
28 Nephritis	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	0
29 Puerperal and Post-Abortion sepsis	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	0
30 Other maternal causes	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	0
31 Premature birth	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	0
32 Congenital Malformations, Birth injuries and infantile diseases	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	1
33 Suicide	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	0
34 Road Traffic Accidents	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	1
35 Other violent causes	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	1
36 All other causes	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	6
ALL CAUSES							38	58

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

1. LABORATORY FACILITIES.

There are arrangements with the Bedford County Hospital for the Pathological and Bacteriological Examination of any specimens required.

The following were examined:—

For Diphtheria	2
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The Public Health Laboratory Service, directed by the Medical Research Council, acting for the Ministry of Health, has established a laboratory at The Department of Pathology, Tennis Court Road, Cambridge.

One of the main functions of this service is to co-operate with General Practitioners and Medical Officers of Health in the diagnosis, prevention and control of infectious diseases. For these purposes the laboratory will undertake the examination of material, e.g., throat swabs, sputa, fæces, blood from any patient suspected to be suffering from a communicable infection or of being a carrier.

The service is free of charge.

The following examinations were made during the year:—

Fæces	2
Blood, Widal tests	1
Blood, Culture	1

2. AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

Infectious Diseases: An ambulance is kept at Oakley Isolation Hospital for these cases.

Accident, Emergency and Other Cases: The service provided by the Bedfordshire County Council has satisfactorily met the increasing demands that are occurring. It covers the full twenty-four hours, and is free of charge.

In addition to moving emergency cases, ambulance or sitting-case car transport is available for carrying patients unable to travel by other means to Hospitals and Clinics, at which attendance is necessary for the purpose of receiving medical treatment.

Except in the case of an emergency, the request for an ambulance must be made by a Medical Practitioner or other Authorised Person. This should be to the nearest dépôt.

Depôts are situated as follows:—

BEDFORD
Newnham Avenue

AMPTHILL
Claridges Lane

BIGGLESWADE
Crab Lane

<i>Telephone</i>
Bedford 4875
Ampthill 2187
Biggleswade 2295

DUNSTABLE High Street North	Dunstable 76
LUTON 42 Church Street	Luton 4600
LINSLADE Linslade, Leighton Buzzard and Wing Division of the St. John Ambulance Brigade Headquarters, 10 New Road, Linslade.	Leighton Buzzard 3332
WOBURN SANDS The Woburn Sands and District Ambulance Service, "Horse Grove", Station Road.	Woburn Sands 3107
RUSHDEN Rushden and District Motor Ambulance Association, Mr. C. C. Woods, 3 Purvis Road.	Rushden 403

3. PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOME.

The Bedfordshire County Nursing Association supplies two nurses to the District. These nurses attend to Midwifery and Maternity cases and also to minor Medical and Surgical cases. They are not allowed to nurse any disease of an infectious nature.

Supervision is carried out by the Superintendent of the County Nursing Association.

The salary of these nurses is made up by a grant from the Beds. County Council, together with voluntary contributions and small fees which are charged to non-members.

The nurses employed are:—

Nurse Minards*†	Nurse Clark*†
* Registered Assistant Nurse.	† S.C.M.

4. CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

These are undertaken by the County Council.

Infant Welfare Clinic:—Is held at the Kempston Methodist Schoolroom (Foster Road), on every Friday, at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

The Ante-Natal Clinic:—Is held also at the Methodist Schoolroom, on alternate Wednesdays, at 10 a.m.

Venereal Disease Clinic:

Men

Women

Bedford County Hospital . . Monday to Friday Monday, Tuesday, 6 p.m.
(Ampthill Road Entrance) (inclusive) 4-8 p.m. Wednesday, 5-7 p.m.
Thursday, 5 p.m.
Friday, 3-5 p.m.

Medical Officer in attendance: Wednesday, 5-7 p.m., Friday, 3-5 p.m.

Chest Clinic:—

The new Clinic opened on 27th November, 1947, at:—
St. Peter's Hospital, Kimbolton Road, Bedford.

Monday, 10 a.m.-12 noon	..	..	..	Contacts (both sexes)
Monday, 2 p.m.-3.30 p.m.	..	..	..	Pneumothorax Refills
Tuesday, 9.30 a.m.-11.30 a.m.	..	..	..	Women and Children only
Thursday, 9.30 a.m.-11.30 a.m.	..	..	..	Men only
Friday, 10 a.m.-11.30 a.m.	..	..	..	Pneumothorax Refills

Consultant Physician in attendance alternate Wednesdays.

5. HOSPITALS

There are no hospitals belonging to the authority but patients from the district go to the Bedford County Hospital (a voluntary Hospital) and the St. Peter's Hospital, which is under the Public Assistance Authority. There is adequate provision.

6. MIDWIVES.

The employment and registration of Midwives is undertaken by the County Council.

The number practising in your area is four, including the two employed by the Bedfordshire County Nursing Association.

Their names and addresses are:—

Nurse Clark, 14 Birchdale Avenue, Kempston.
Nurse Dix, "Avoca", Wootton Road, Kempston.
Nurse Minards, 66 Foster Road, Kempston.
Nurse Sprake, The Elms Nursing Home, Kempston.

LEGISLATION IN FORCE.

ADOPTIVE ACTS.

Public Health Act, 1890.
Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907, Sections 61 and 67.
Notification of Births Act, 1907.

BYE-LAWS AND REGULATIONS.

Prevention of Nuisances.
Cleansing of Footways.
New Streets and Buildings.
Dairies, Cowsheds, Milkshops, etc.
Slaughter Houses.

SCHOOLS.

There are two schools in the district, both of them are Council Schools.

1. BEDFORD ROAD SCHOOL.

The Secondary Modern Department has an average of 264 pupils on its roll, with an average attendance of 244. The Primary Department has on its roll an average of 276 pupils, with an average attendance of 264.

The Sanitary arrangements are water-flushed closets, connected with sewer. There are conveniences for six boys, six girls, three infant boys and three infant girls. The water is obtained from the public mains.

There is electric light in both departments.

The Senior School class-rooms are warmed by central heating throughout: those of the Junior School have radiators and open fireplaces.

2. THE UP END SCHOOL.

The average number of pupils on the roll is 352 with an average attendance of 319.

The sanitary arrangements are water-flushed closets connected with the public sewer. There are two conveniences for boys, four for girls and two for infants.

The water supply is from the main.

There are five class-rooms which are lighted by electricity and are warmed by central heating and radiators.

There have been no changes in the Sanitary arrangements for the schools during this year. School meals are provided by the Bedfordshire County Council for each of the three schools, and at the Kempston Secondary Modern School the provision of additional classroom accommodation and kitchen and dining hall was commenced.

CLOSURES.

It was unnecessary to close any of the schools through infectious diseases.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. WATER SUPPLY.

The bulk of water comes from a greensand source, under control of the Biggleswade Water Board, the remainder, supplying the Ampthill Road area, is obtained from the Bedford Corporation.

At the present time, with the exception of four cottages situated on the extreme outskirts, water is supplied by the Council's mains directly to every dwelling house in the area.

In February, due to the enormous wastage of water consequent upon burst supply pipes following severe frosts, difficulty was experienced in maintaining the main water supply, but the critical position was quickly overcome through willing

co-operation and assistance of local plumbers and others. Apart from this, the main water supply has been satisfactory both in quantity and quality. No alterations or extensions were carried out to the mains.

There are a few private wells in existence, the water from which is mainly used for horticultural purposes.

Supplies in bulk are afforded to the villages of Cardington and Elstow in the Bedford Rural District, and to the Royal Air Force Works at Cardington.

Water sampling is not carried out by this Authority, but copies have been submitted of the results of all chemical and bacteriological examinations made on behalf of the two undertakings concerned. These have all revealed a quality of high standard.

There are at present 78 consumer meters in use in the district.

Total water consumption figures for the year are given in the following table:—

						<i>Gallons</i>
Kempston Urban District	..	..	..	..	..	105,472,000
Elstow	..	..	..	..	..	2,300,000
Cardington	..	..	..	..	..	2,250,000
R.A.W.	..	..	..	..	..	59,646,000
Total						<u>169,668,000</u>

Cold water taps are re-washed free of charge by the Council and during the year 92 received attention.

2. DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

Apart from the following premises which are situated in the out-parts of the District, all dwelling houses are connected to the sewers:—

<i>Situation</i>	<i>No. of Premises</i>						<i>Sanitary Arrangements</i>
Sailor's Bridge	..	..	..	..	..	2	Pail closets
Mill Cottage	..	..	..	..	..	1	„
Kempston Mill	..	..	..	..	..	1	Chemical Closets
Bury Cottages	..	..	..	..	..	4	Pail Closets
White Lodge	..	..	..	..	..	1	Cesspool
Hoo Lodge	..	..	..	..	..	1	„
The Mill House	..	..	..	..	..	1	„
The Manor	..	..	..	..	..	1	„
Manor Cottage	..	..	..	..	..	1	„
The Manor Cottages	..	..	..	..	..	2	„
Kempston Grange	..	..	..	..	..	1	„
Grange Cottages	..	..	..	..	..	2	„
The Bury	..	..	..	..	..	1	„

During the year one dwelling was connected to the sewer and its cesspool abolished.

There are no ash-pits or privies in the area. Pail closets are emptied weekly by the Council's men with tank carts and contents discharged at the sewerage outfall.

REFUSE COLLECTION.

The weekly collection of refuse and other salvage, in one operation from all premises, has been continued by a battery driven refuse collector drawing a trailer.

Cesspools are emptied by the Council's tank cart and contents discharged in a similar manner.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL WORKS.

The complete scheme for the improvement of these works still remains in abeyance.

3. RIVERS AND STREAMS.

No complaints have been received of river or stream pollution during the year, and no action has been necessary.

4. CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

With the exception of a few houses in the outlying parts of the district which have pail or chemical closets all houses have water closets.

5. PUBLIC CLEANSING.

There are no ash-pits or privies in the area. Pail closets are emptied weekly by the Council's men with tank carts, and contents discharged at the sewerage outfall.

The weekly collection of refuse and salvage in one operation from all premises has been continued by a Battery driven Refuse Collector, drawing a trailer. Approximately 1,400 tons of house refuse was disposed of during the year.

Six cesspools were emptied during the year by the Council's tank cart and contents discharged into the outfall at the Sewerage Works.

The following table shows the quantities of salvage sold during the year:—

						<i>Tons</i>	<i>Cwts.</i>
Waste Paper, Books, Cardboard	..	..	..	..	..	29	3 $\frac{1}{4}$
Scrap Iron and Tins	..	..	..	..	..	3	19 $\frac{1}{2}$
Non-ferrous Metals	..	..	..	..	..		4 $\frac{1}{4}$
Textiles	..	..	..	..	..	4	0
Rubber	..	..	..	..	..	—	1 $\frac{1}{4}$
Bones	..	..	..	..	..	—	7 $\frac{1}{2}$
Bottles and Jars	..	..	..	..	..	12	0 $\frac{1}{4}$
Manure	..	..	..	..	..	6	0
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	..	1	10
Total						57	6

Revenue from sale of Salvage during the year amounted to £346 11s. 8d.

The emptying of street gullies and street scavenging has been carried out whenever labour was available.

6. SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

The following table shows the number of inspections made during the year, for all purposes:—

Dwelling-houses inspected and Recorded under the Housing Acts Regulations	12
Ordinary Inspections for housing defects	51
Sanitary routine inspections	312
Inspection of Slaughter-houses and Foodstuffs	64
Visits and re-visits to Council Property relating to reported defects and repairs of same	239
Inspection of Factories and Workshops, including Bakehouses	37
Inspection of Cow-sheds and Dairies	16
Inspection of Petroleum Stores	4
Visits re Infectious Disease	12
Rooms disinfected	20
Inspections under Shops Act	4
Drainage Inspections	201
Drain Tests	176
Caravans	14
Other Miscellaneous visits	52
Water Services	38
Building Bye-laws	591

7. SHOPS AND OFFICES.

No action with regard to shops and offices was found necessary.

8. SMOKE ABATEMENT.

No action found necessary.

9. SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

There are no privately owned or other swimming baths open to the public in the District.

10. ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

During the year under review four houses, all privately owned, were found to be infested with bugs.

These were disinfested and two separate methods have been put into operation as follows:—

- (1) Skirting boards and architraves pulled away from walls in all rooms, all floor covering removed and destroyed. Holes bored in ceilings of all rooms. All windows, doors and chimney openings sealed and disinfested by High Concentration of Gas (Cescones).
- (2) Procedure as above, but no openings sealed, and disinfested with a liquid fumigant (Zaldecide), in the form of a spray pressure driven, behind all skirting boards, architraves, picture rails and all other likely places.
- (3) Periodic revisiting is carried out and process repeated where found necessary.

HOUSING.

1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES DURING THE YEAR.

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	31
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	31
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under the sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925	12
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	14
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	Nil
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	25

2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

Number of defective houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	42
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3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR.

A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	6
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit at service of formal notices:—	
(a) By owners	6
(b) By local authority in default of owners	Nil

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	8
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:	
(a) By owners	8
(b) By local authority in default of owners	Nil

C. Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	Nil

D. Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	Nil
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were determined the tenement or room having been rendered fit	Nil

4. HOUSING ACT, 1936—PART IV—OVERCROWDING.

Due to lack of alternative accommodation no action has been taken under this Part, although records of known cases are maintained, and fresh cases are continually being discovered.

SURVEYOR'S INSPECTIONS OF BUILDING WORKS IN PROGRESS DURING THE YEAR.

Sewage Disposal	57
Surface Water Drains	40
New Streets and Sewers	Nil
Footings and Foundations	104
Concrete to Foundations and Footings	112
Damp Course	67
Drains	142
Work in course of construction	304
Alterations and additions to existing properties	58

NUMBER OF NEW HOUSES ERECTED AND OCCUPIED DURING THE YEAR.

1. By the Local Authority	28
2. By other Authorities	Nil
3. By other bodies or persons	6

PLANS SUBMITTED DURING YEAR.

Dwelling-houses:—

(a) Local Authority	24
(b) Private Enterprise	Nil
Private Garages	23
Outbuildings	26
Extensions or alterations to existing buildings	13
Industrial and Business Premises	17

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) MILK SUPPLY.

There are 10 dairy premises and 6 cowsheds in the district to which 16 visits were made. Visits to cowsheds have been made during milking hours and suggestions given for the purpose of encouraging clean methods and for necessary care to be taken in the production and handling of milk.

(b) MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

The slaughtering of food animals in this area was discontinued on the 15th of January, 1940, under the Livestock (Restriction on Slaughtering) Order, 1940.

Two Slaughter Houses are licensed in this area but have only been used during the period under review for the slaughter of pigs belonging to "self suppliers" from areas outside the radius specified from a Government Slaughterhouse.

Shops, vehicles and places where food is prepared have been duly inspected and found to be in good order.

Voluntary surrender of the undermentioned foodstuffs found to be unfit for human consumption has been made, same having been destroyed under supervision:—

Imported and Home Killed Meat	..	..	..	..	..	156 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs.
Bacon	..	..	..	..	..	14 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.
Sausages	..	..	..	..	..	33 lbs.
Fresh Fish	..	..	..	..	..	376 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.
Canned Meats	..	..	..	..	..	24 lbs.
„ Fish and Fish Cakes	..	..	..	..	..	60 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.
„ Vegetables and Soups	..	..	..	..	..	8 lbs.
„ Milk	..	..	..	..	..	18 lbs.
Eggs	..	..	..	..	..	343 lbs.
Cheese	..	..	..	..	..	51 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.
Imported Tomatoes	..	..	..	..	..	6 lbs.
Canned Fruit	..	..	..	..	..	10 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.

ICE CREAM.

Fourteen premises are registered for the sale of ice cream and five for its manufacture in the District. During the year, however, only at three premises was ice cream actually manufactured and in each case the complete cold mix process was operated. Frequent visits have been made to these and the requirements of the Heat Treatment Regulations fully explained and found to be observed.

DISINFECTION.

Fumigation of rooms has been carried out after all cases of infectious diseases by a dilute spray of Formalin and by Formaldehyde Gas.

An inspection of the house and sanitary arrangements is also made in each case, and notice served to make good any defect that may be found.

RAT AND MICE DESTRUCTION.

Ten complaints of rat infestation at premises in the district have been investigated and successful measures taken to secure their eradication.

The sewage disposal works and refuse tips are kept under constant supervision and treated periodically with poison baits.

CIVIL BUILDING CONTROL.

In August, 1945, local authorities were requested to undertake the licensing of building work, within certain limits, under Defence Regulation 56A, also the granting of licences for private builders to erect small houses. The following table shows the Building Licences issued during the year under review:—

Number of Licences granted for the repair, etc., of—

Dwelling-houses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	161
Value	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	£6,942

Number of Licences granted for the repair of—

Premises other than Dwelling-houses	..	..	..	..	55
Value	..	..	..	..	£2,692

Number of Licences granted for the erection of—

New Dwellings for Sale or Owner Occupation	..	..	6
Value	..	..	£6,420

Number of licences granted for work resulting in an increase of housing accommodation, 1—£40.

The very considerable work involved in dealing with applications for Licences and administering Civil Building Control places a heavy burden on your Officer.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.

Patients suffering from notifiable infectious diseases are treated at the Oakley Isolation Hospital which is administered by a Joint Hospital Board, comprised of members from the Bedford Borough Council, Bedford Rural District Council and the Kempston Urban District Council. The accommodation provided is for sixty-four beds, allowing 2,000 square feet floor space for each bed.

OAKLEY ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

Patients in hospital from your District on 1st January, 1947:—

Scarlet Fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Diphtheria ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0
Other Diseases	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1

Admissions—

Poliomyelitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2**
Scarlet Fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Diphtheria ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1*
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1†
Other cases	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2

Discharges—

Poliomyelitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Scarlet Fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Other cases	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6

Deaths Nil

Number of patients in hospital on 31st December, 1947 Nil

** One case suspected Poliomyelitis, finally diagnosed Tonsillitis.

* Suspected Diphtheria, finally diagnosed Tonsillitis.

† Suspected Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis, finally diagnosed Influenza.

Scarlet Fever.

Twenty-seven cases were notified. Four of these were treated in hospital, the remainder being nursed at home owing to staffing difficulties at the isolation hospital.

Smallpox.

I am glad to report that no case occurred.

Visits were made to residences of Smallpox contacts coming from other districts.

Diphtheria.

No cases notified.

Pneumonia.

No cases notified.

Poliomyelitis.

One case was notified and was admitted to hospital, making a complete recovery.

Erysipelas.

One case was notified.

Typhoid Fever.

One case, an elderly female, was notified and treated in hospital, where she made a good recovery.

Measles.

Eighty-two cases were reported. All of these recovered.

Whooping Cough.

Three cases were notified. All recovered.

Puerperal Pyrexia.

One case was notified. This recovered.

Non-Notifiable Infectious Diseases.

There have been no epidemics brought to my notice.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS).

	Measles	Diphtheria	Erysipelas	Pneumonia	Scarlet Fever	Puerperal Pyrexia	Whooping Cough	Poliomyelitis	Typhoid Fever
Total cases notified	82	—	1	—	27	1	3	1	1
Cases admitted to Hospital ..	1	—	—	—	4	—	—	1	1
Total Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Cases under 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Deaths „	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cases from 1-2 years	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Deaths „	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cases from 2-3 years	10	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	—
Deaths „	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cases from 3-4 years	9	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—
Deaths „	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cases from 4-5 years	13	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Deaths „	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cases from 5-10 years	44	—	—	—	8	—	2	—	—
Deaths „	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cases from 10-15 years	1	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—
Deaths „	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Cases from 15-20 years	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
Deaths „	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cases from 20-35 years	2	—	—	—	4	1	—	—	—
Deaths „	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cases from 35-45 years	—	—	1	—	3	—	—	—	—
Deaths „	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cases from 45-65 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Deaths „	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cases 65 years and over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Deaths „	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—

TUBERCULOSIS.
New Cases and Mortality.

Age Period.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
1 year to 5 years ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 years to 10 ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
10 „ 15 ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15 „ 20 ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
20 „ 25 ..	—	2	—	1	1	—	—	—
25 „ 35 ..	1	3	—	1	—	—	—	—
35 „ 45 ..	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
45 „ 55 ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55 „ 65 ..	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 years and over ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	4	8	—	2	2	—	—	1

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Table I below gives the numbers of children in age groups who have during the year under review, and at any time previously, received a full course of Immunisation.

The figures for those in the pre-school age group show a fall from 74% to 68% and for those in the school age group a fall from 89% to 85%, as compared with the previous year.

Immunisation may be obtained at the Welfare Clinic, at School or at General Practitioners' Surgeries, entirely free of charge; the expense being borne in the case of those below school age by the County Council, and the remainder by the Urban District Council.

I. IMMUNISATION IN RELATION TO CHILD POPULATION.

Number of children who had completed a full course of Immunisation at any time to 31st December, 1947.

Age at 31.12.47 Born in years.	Under 1 1947	1 1946	2 1945	3 1944	4 1943	5-9 1938-1942	10-14 1933-1937	Total under 15
Number Immunised	4	70	121	139	115	558	357	1364
Estimated mid-year Population 1947.			660			1078		

II. DIPHTHERIA NOTIFICATIONS AND DEATHS IN RELATION TO IMMUNISATION.

NOTIFICATIONS			DEATHS		
Age at date of notification	Number of cases notified	Number of cases included in preceding column in which child had completed full course of Immunisation	Age at date of Death	Number of Deaths	Number of cases included in preceding column in which child had completed full course of Immunisation
Under 1 ..	—	—	Under 1 ..	—	—
1	—	—	1	—	—
2	—	—	2	—	—
3	—	—	3	—	—
4	—	—	4	—	—
5-9	—	—	5-9	—	—
10-14 ..	—	—	10-14 ..	—	—
Totals ..	—	—	Totals ..	—	—

SCABIES ORDER, 1941.

By arrangements with the Borough of Bedford, infected persons are treated at the Borough Treatment Centre, Commercial Road, Bedford, at the cost of 2s. per treatment.

Where possible, arrangements are always made for the other members of the household to attend for treatment as contacts at the same time as the infected person or persons.

During the year under review eight treatments were given.

The Scabies Order, 1941, ceased to be operative at the end of 1947. In future verminous conditions will be dealt with under normal Statutory Powers, as contained in the Public Health Acts for dealing with Verminous Conditions.

CANCER.

Twelve deaths from cancer were registered. Three males and nine females.

Distribution of Males.

Buccal Cavity and Oesophagus	..	..	..	0		
Stomach and Duodenum	..	..	..	1	..	.. (aged 78)
All other sites	..	..	..	2	..	(aged 77, 64)

Distribution of Females.

Uterus	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	(aged 55, 72, 68)
Stomach and Duodenum	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	(aged 66)
Breast	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	(aged 66)
All other sites	..	..	..	..	4	..	..	(aged 69, 81, 64, 57)

PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS.

No action was necessary to be taken under Section 176 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

TUBERCULOSIS.

No necessity arose for any action to be taken under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations 1925 (relating to persons in the Milk Trade) or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936 (relating to compulsory removal to Hospital).

PRESCRIBED PARTICULARS ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

PART I OF THE ACT.

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises. (1)	M/c. line No. (2)	Number on Register. (3)	Number of			M/c. line No. (7)
			Inspections. (4)	Written notices. (5)	Occupiers prosecuted. (6)	
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	4	6	2	—	1
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	2	32	25	4	—	2
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority† (excluding out-workers' premises)	3	3	6	Nil	—	3
Total ..		39	37	6	—	

† i.e., Electrical Stations [Section 103 (i)], Institutions. (Section 104) and Sites of Building Operations and Works of Engineering Construction (Sections 107 and 108).

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases")

Particulars.	M/c. line No.	Number of cases in which defects were found.				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (7)	M/c. line No.
		Found	Remedied	Referred			
				To H.M. Inspector.	By H.M. Inspector.		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	4	5	5	—	—	—	4
Overcrowding (S.2)	5	—	—	—	—	—	5
Unreasonable tem- perature (S.3) ..	6	—	—	—	—	—	6
Inadequate ventila- tion (S.4)	7	—	—	—	—	—	7
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ..	8	1	1	—	—	—	8
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)—							
(a) Insufficient ..	9	1	1	—	—	—	9
(b) Unsuitable or defective ..	10	3	2	—	2	—	10
(c) Not separate for sexes ..	11	1	1	—	—	—	11
Other offences against the Act (not includ- ing offences relating to Outwork) ..	12	—	—	—	—	—	12
Total ..	60	11	10	—	2	—	60

PART VIII OF THE ACT.

OUTWORK.

(Sections 110 and 111.)

There were no outworkers in the district.

